

*In the Claims*

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. [Currently amended] A method for publishing a catalog  
2 as a relational database production table, comprising the  
3 steps of:

4 building a web catalog system including an application  
5 server, a catalog administration component, a  
6 requisition catalog component, a relational database  
7 including a relational database staging table and a  
8 relational database production table, a catalog  
9 administration browser, and a requester browser;

10 connecting said application server through a firewall  
11 to a supplier server;

12 connecting said application server, catalog  
13 administration browser and catalog administration  
14 component to said relational database staging table;

15 connecting said relational database staging table and  
16 said requester browser to said relational database

17        production table, said relational database providing  
18        for each of a plurality of supplier catalogs a catalog  
19        profile including supplier name, start and end dates of  
20        catalog validity, and currency, and fields for each  
21        supplier catalog for describing catalog parts and a  
22        listing by part number of price;

23        in said supplier server, extracting and reformatting  
24        supplier source data to create a flat file catalog in a  
25        column delimited format specified by an enterprise;

26        receiving from [[a]] said supplier server through said  
27        firewall via electronic data interchange (EDI) [[a]]  
28        said flat file catalog containing catalog items in said  
29        column delimited format specified to suppliers by said  
30        enterprise;

31        accepting said flat file catalog in said column  
32        delimited format into an enterprise EDI mailbox;

33        reformatting and storing from said enterprise EDI  
34        mailbox said flat file catalog as a reformatted flat  
35        file catalog into a generation data group store for  
36        retaining a last N iterations of flat file catalogs

END920000110US1

3 of 12

S/N 09/657,196

37

received by said enterprise from suppliers;

38

executing job scripts for reading said reformatted flat  
file catalog, alerting said buyer of receipt of a new  
flat file catalog, and loading said reformatted flat  
file catalog into a into said relational database  
staging table;

43

providing a single path connection for enabling  
requester access via said requester browser to said  
relational database production table and buyer access  
via said catalog administration browser to said  
relational database staging table, said requester and  
buyer being provided through an access control list  
respective requester and buyer levels of authority for  
accessing said relational database staging table and  
said relational database production table over said  
single path, said relational database staging table and  
said relational database production table having  
identical formats;

55

providing in said catalog administration function  
access list controls for controlling through a  
graphical user interface access presented by said

END920000110US1

4 of 12

S/N 09/657,196

58       requester browser and access presented by said  
59       administration browser to said relational database  
60       staging table and to said relational database  
61       production table, and further providing in said catalog  
62       administration function hard coded controls for  
63       selectively enabling and inhibiting access by a buyer  
64       at said administration browser to fields within said  
65       relational database staging table to allow allowing  
66       buyer audit control over first predetermined selected  
67       fields in said relational database staging table while  
68       restricting buyer access to second predetermined fields  
69       within said relational database staging table, said  
70       second predetermined fields including unit price and  
71       unit of measure other fields;  
  
72       executing validation procedures in said database server  
73       for validating format of said flat file catalog and  
74       identifying and logging catalog changes, moving content  
75       of said flat file catalog in said relational database  
76       staging table to said relational database production  
77       table responsive to buyer acceptance of said changes as  
78       not including changes to fields to which said buyer is  
79       inhibited access by said hard coded controls; and

END920000110US1

5 of 12

S/N 09/657,196

80       said catalog administration function operating said  
81       graphical user interface to enable said buyer to update  
82       updating a said relational database production table  
83       from said relational database staging table while  
84       inhibiting access to said relational database staging  
85       table by said requester, said staging table and said  
86       production table having matching formats, and allowing  
87       a user read said requester read access to said  
88       relational database production table for reference in  
89       preparing a requisition for a catalog item.

2. [Canceled]

1       3. [Currently amended] System for building and using a  
2       web catalog, comprising:

3       a web catalog system including an application server, a  
4       catalog administration component, a requisition catalog  
5       component, a relational database, a catalog  
6       administration browser, and a requester browser;

7       a supplier catalog flat file for storing catalog items  
8       in an enterprise defined column delimited format;

9       said relational database providing for each of a  
10      plurality of supplier catalogs a catalog profile  
11      including supplier name, start and end dates of catalog  
12      validity, and currency, and for each supplier catalog  
13      fields for describing catalog parts and a listing by  
14      part number of price;

15       said [[a]] relational database including a staging  
16      table and a production table;

17       said [[an]] application server including an enterprise  
18      electronic data interchange (EDI) mailbox for  
19      receiving, converting and storing said flat file  
20      catalog to said staging table;

21       said application server further for reformatting and  
22      storing from said enterprise EDI mailbox said flat file  
23      catalog as a reformatted flat file catalog into a  
24      generation data group store for retaining a last N  
25      iterations of flat file catalogs received from  
26      suppliers to said enterprise, and for alerting said  
27      buyer of receipt of a new flat file catalog;

28       said catalog administration component including an

29        administration function for controlling content of  
30        catalog information from a vendor stored to said  
31        staging table from said flat file;

32        said catalog administration component including a  
33        catalog administration procedure for presenting said  
34        staging table to said catalog administration function  
35        in a graphical user interface with fields of said  
36        staging table selectively enabled or disabled for  
37        auditing in accordance with role and authority of a  
38        user of said administration function; and for  
39        publishing an administration audited catalog to said  
40        production table;

41        a requisition creation function operable by a user for  
42        creating a requisition with reference to said  
43        production table;

44        a single path connection for enabling requester access  
45        via said requester browser to said production table and  
46        buyer access via said catalog administration browser to  
47        said staging table;

48        an access control list for specifying respective

49       requester and buyer levels of authority for accessing  
50       said staging table and said production table over said  
51       single path connection, said staging table and said  
52       production table having identical formats;

53       said catalog administration component further for  
54       providing access list controls for controlling access  
55       through a graphical user interface to said staging  
56       table and to said production table, and further for  
57       providing hard coded controls for selectively enabling  
58       and inhibiting access by a buyer to predetermined  
59       fields within said staging table;

60       said catalog administration component further for  
61       moving content of said flat file catalog from said  
62       staging table to said production table responsive to  
63       buyer acceptance of changes as not including changes to  
64       fields to which said buyer is inhibited access by said  
65       hard coded controls; and

66       a web catalog function for presenting said production  
67       table to said requisition creation function.

4-16 [Canceled]

END920000110US1

9 of 12

S/N 09/657,196